



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

To: City of College Park Council Members

From: Scott Somers, City Manager

Date: March 8, 2016

Subject: City Of College Park Weekly Bulletin

Attachments: 3rd Thirsty Thursday, Egg Hunt, Brunch with the Bunny, Good Neighbor Day, District 1 Coffee Club and Bike to Work Day.

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE: WEEK OF FEBRUARY 29, 2016

1. Janeen Miller, City Clerk, and I met to complete future draft Council agendas.
2. Carlo Colello, UMD Vice President, Anne Martens, Chief of Staff, and I met to discuss several projects such as downtown redevelopment, improved communications and relations, and ongoing UMD and City collaboration.
3. Brenda Alexander, Deputy Public Works Director, Steve Halpern, City Engineer and I met to review and discuss several community improvement projects such as community meeting space and City facility improvements.
4. Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager, and I met for our monthly one-on-one meeting. Items discussed included facility improvements, updates to Council Rules, a summary of the Council Retreat, Action Items for the Strategic Plan, and improvements for Code Enforcement.
5. Reviewed the requested budget for the Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development
6. Attended an online demonstration concerning software upgrades associated with code enforcement and customer relations management (CRM).
7. Attended the City Council Worksession.
8. Facilitated the weekly department head meeting. Staff discussed the previous night's regular meeting and then reviewed the Mayor and Council draft agendas for upcoming meetings.

9. Bob Ryan, Public Services Director, Jeannie Ripley, Code Enforcement Manager and I met to review and discuss Code Enforcement and ways of improving the process through software upgrades and identifying priorities.
10. Attended the Prince George's Property Owners Association quarterly meeting.
11. Reviewed the requested budget for the Administration Department.
12. Reviewed motions and discussion items for the March 9 Regular Council meeting.
13. Councilmember Nagle and I met for our monthly meeting. Items discussed included the need for improved meeting space, updates to the City's website, the upcoming budget process, and potential updates to the Council agenda.
14. Met with administrators from University Park, Riverdale Park, and Hyattsville to discuss how our cities might be able to work together more collaboratively.
15. Met with former Mayor, Andrew Fellows, to catch up on City items such as City Hall, Council Retreat, Strategic Plan, Budget, etc.
16. Worked with staff, the Mayor, and Councilmembers on several resident concerns.

NOTEWORTHY DEPARTMENT ITEMS

Administration

- Davis Hall is not available for rentals or meetings April 1 through July 31, 2016. Davis Hall will be used as City office space for Public Works staff until the new modular building is in place.
 - We bid farewell to Janet McCaslin, whose last day in Administration was Friday. Janet has accepted the Sustainability Coordinator position in the Department of Public Works. She will be missed at City Hall, but our loss is Public Works' gain. Janet's vacant position has been posted internally.
 - The annual reception thanking the City's appointed Board members has been scheduled for Friday, May 20, 2016 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the UMD Golf Course Clubhouse. This is the City's opportunity to thank the many volunteers who serve on our Boards and Committees.
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Engineering

- Staff performed a City wide streetlight inspection this past February. 41 malfunctioning streetlights were reported to Pepco for service.

DEFECT	QUANTITY
Light Out	29
Cycles on and off	5
Lit Constantly	7

Planning Department

- A meeting was held with staff from Prince George's County (DPW&T and M-NCPPC) to discuss bicycle-related issues. The county has hired a new Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager and is nearing completion of a Bike Share Feasibility Study. We provided an update on the launch of the College Park Bike Share program with Zagster, Inc.
- Staff took a hard hat tour of the Monument Village project. Economic Development will provide assistance with identifying potential retail tenants.
- The Community Development Coordinator attended a Maryland Department of Transportation workshop on bicycle and pedestrian funding programs. \$14 million is available statewide to enhance walking, biking and recreational trail access through competitive grant awards.
- The Community Development Coordinator and members of the Committee for a Better Environment attended a Prince George's County Green Team summit where the need for greater collaboration on sustainability issues was discussed.

- The Economic Development Coordinator announced his resignation from the city effective March 18, 2016. An Economic Development intern from the University of Maryland has been selected and will start work after spring break.
 - The Advisory Planning Commission met on March 3 and approved a letter to the Mayor and Council with recommendations for amending the city's Fence Ordinance.
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Public Services

Code Enforcement

- Staff opened 43 cases for various code violations; eight municipal infractions were issued.
- Staff attended the Maryland Municipal League's Code Enforcement and Zoning Officials quarterly training session/meeting on March 4.
- One code case was heard by the Advisory Planning Commission on March 3.
- Clerical staff generated 30 residential inspection notices.
- Mailed 34 residential Occupancy Permit renewal notices.
- Mailed 82 residential validation notices with permits.
- Processed 4 notices of inspection for commercial establishments.
- Billed one new commercial establishment.
- Mailed 20 commercial permits.
- Released 3 building permits.
- Staff received 7 calls on the hotline, five related to noise.
- Conducted 14 single family home inspections and 3 re-inspections.
- Inspected 1 condo unit.
- Inspected 12 commercial establishments.

Animal Control

- Investigated a complaint of a stray dog
- Filed two lost cat reports
- Loaned a trap to a resident for the capture of stray cats

Special Alert - Foxes

Fox sightings are a common concern during this time of year. Below is some information regarding foxes that we are communicating to the public:

Foxes are more prevalent in the residential areas this year due to their natural mating season as well as the recent destruction and disturbance of green areas. The fox's diet typically consists of rabbits, snakes, insects, birds, mice, berries and fruits as well as carcasses of deceased animals. A fox is by nature, non

confrontational and will very rarely take on something the size of even a cat, much less a dog; both of whom are considered predatory to the fox.

The fox is protected by Fur Bearing and Rabies Vector standards and cannot be removed from the area by City Animal Control unless it is showing obvious neurological symptoms or seems injured to the point of being downed and unable to fend for itself. Both of which could be signs of distemper, rabies, or a trauma injury.

There have been multiple fox sightings in the City from Calvert Hills, Hollywood, Crystal Springs, and College Park Woods. There is a den in the compost field at Davis Hall. The presence of a fox is not one to be overly concerned about, as they are becoming more obvious as their habitats are being destroyed - most recently the Cafritz property. Accompanying the increase in fox sightings, residents may hear a screaming sound, as if an animal is in distress. This is most likely the "vixen scream" which is a vocalization between male and female fox as well as mother and kits. It is normal and no reason for alarm.

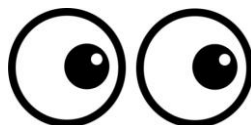
Though regular urban wildlife, foxes are one of the least adaptable species to human life styles (though they HAVE adapted). If you need a fox family to move on, after the kits have emerged from the den, the United States Humane Society recommends:

- Place pinwheels or other humane deterrent around the den
- Place loosely packed leaves, soil, or mulch in the den openings to disturb the residents
- Place used kitty litter or anything with a strong human scent near the den opening
- Mount Mylar® balloons two to three feet off the ground, just outside the entrance to the den

If the above suggestions don't work, you may need to contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Nuisance Wildlife Hotline 877-463-6497; but due to the regulations in place they will only intervene in extreme situations. For more information, visit:

http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/foxes/tips/solving_problems_with_foxes.html?credit=web_id87240394

Public Safety Reminder



WHEN YOU SEE SOMETHING - SAY SOMETHING

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- DPW staff was in ready for the snow event on Friday, March 4; but both the street and sidewalk surface temperatures where above freezing and no snow stuck to either.
 - Janet McCaslin, new Sustainability Coordinator, started to work at DPW on Monday, March 7.
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MEETINGS AT A GLANCE:

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

7:30 pm Mayor & Council Regular Meeting at City Hall

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

9:00 am District 1 Coffee Club Meeting at Jason's Deli

7:00 pm Ethics Commission Meeting at City Hall

7:00 pm Calvert Hills Citizens Association at Old Parish House

Thursday, March 10, 2016

7:00 pm Lakeland Civic Association Meeting at College Park Community Center

7:30 pm North College Park Civic Association at Davis Hall

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

7:30 pm Mayor & Council Worksession at City Hall

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

9:00 am District 1 Coffee Club Meeting at Jason's Deli

7:00 pm Tree and Landscape Board Meeting at City Hall

Thursday, March 17, 2016

5:00 -7:00 pm 3rd Thirsty Thursdays Ledo (advertisement is attached)

7:30 pm Berwyn District Civic Association Meeting at the Fishnet Restaurant on Berwyn Rd.

Saturday, March 19, 2016

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Egg Hunt at Youth and Family Services (flyer attached)
11:00 am - 1:00 pm Brunch with the Bunny at College Park Community Center

Join the City/University Community at The Original Ledo Restaurant to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Living, Shopping, and Working in College Park on Thursday, March 17th (5PM)! The College Park Community Foundation will be there to promote their organization in the College Park Mother's Day 5K. Join us for a chance to win a free registration to the 5K! This event is appropriate for children of all ages (1 to 101).

The Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee
presents:

3rd Thirsty Thursdays

Bringing the City/University Community together

March 17th, 5PM-7PM

The Original Ledo Restaurant

4509 Knox Rd, College Park, MD 20740



Join the College Park Community Foundation -
Win a race entry to the College Park 5K



With support from: The College Park City-University Partnership



The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County – Northern Area



live more, play more
pgparks.com



College Park Youth & Family Services Presents

SPRING EGG HUNT

Saturday
March 19th
10AM - 12PM



LOCATED AT:
4912 Nantucket Rd.
College Park, MD 20740

FREE ADMISSION AND ACTIVITIES!

EGG HUNT! ROLLER SKATING! GAMES & PRIZES!

FACE PAINTING! ARTS & CRAFTS!

MEET THE BELTSVILLE FIRE CREW!

The Department of Parks and Recreation encourages and supports the participation of individuals with disabilities. Register a minimum of two weeks in advance of the program start date to request and receive a disability accommodation.



Prince George's County Public Schools is not sponsoring, endorsing, or recommending the activities announced in this material/flyer.

HOP IN FOR
BRUNCH WITH THE BUNNY!

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2016

11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
COLLEGE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
5051 PIERCE AVENUE

FREE ADMISSION
~ ENTERTAINMENT ~ ARTS & CRAFTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL: 240-487-3570

SPONSORED BY THE COLLEGE PARK RECREATION BOARD AND THE
MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK & PLANNING COMMISSION





GOODNEIGHBORDAY

MARYLAND IN SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2016

9 A.M.–1:30 P.M.

COLLEGE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER
5051 PIERCE AVE., COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740

COME JOIN US FOR

FOOD DRIVE TO SUPPORT
COLLEGE PARK FOOD BANK

HOLLYWOOD ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION

INVASIVE SPECIES AND LITTER CLEANUP

Cherry Hill Road Trail • UMD Campus Creek Trail • Calvert Hill Frog Pond
Guilford Drive • Trolley Trail Edible Garden

RAIN GARDEN DESIGN, RAIN BARREL DECORATION AND MORE

For more information and to register, visit GOODNEIGHBORDAY.UMD.EDU



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT



DISTRICT I, COFFEE CLUB

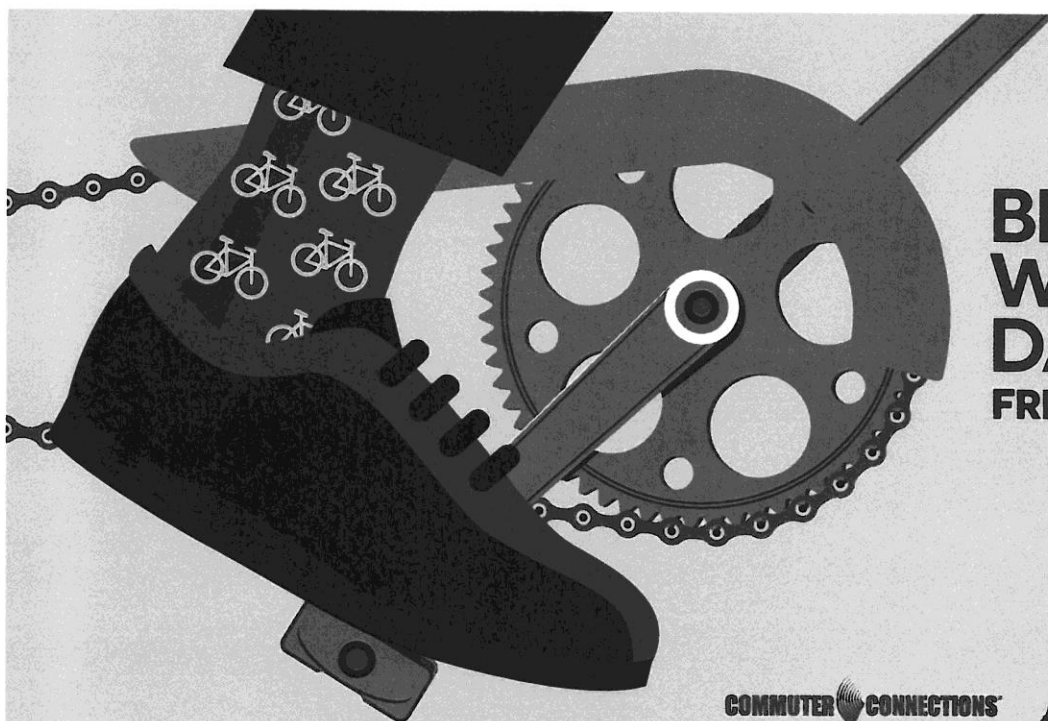
Location: Jason's Deli, 7356 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, MD

The Prince George's County Police Department, District I Coffee Club will meet every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Our goal is to meet with residents of the community to discuss public safety matters, crime statistics and other citizen concerns. This forum is an excellent opportunity for the community and police to engage in comprehensive discussion of all topics related to public safety. Come share ideas on building a stronger police and citizen relationship. The setting will always be casual with an open format. Together let us explore how we can make our area a more livable community.

All of the topics to be discussed are interrelated as we strive to work together to keep District I a place that we are all proud to work and call "Home". The Coffee Club is a public forum for ALL citizens, business owners, organizations, and public officials who share our goal. Everyone is provided an opportunity to share his or her views on any topic of discussion.

It is understood that the Coffee Club does not endorse any political or religious organization.

- The District I Coffee Club meets every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.
- During the summer months of June, July and August, it meets bi-weekly on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month
- During the winter months, it will follow the Prince George's County School System. If the schools are delayed or canceled, it will not meet.



BIKE TO WORK DAY 2016

FRIDAY MAY 20

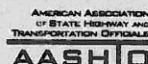
COMMUTER CONNECTIONS



Takoma Bicycle



Bike  Arlington



KIMPTON[®]
hotels & restaurants



BicyclePASS
PARKING AND SHARING SOLUTIONS



Pre-register by May 13 for
Free T-shirt* and Bike Raffles!

FREE FOOD, BEVERAGES and
GIVEAWAYS at all locations

Visit biketoworkmetrodc.org for pit stop locations & times.
*T-shirts available at pit stops to first 15,000 who register.
Over 80 pit stops throughout D.C., Maryland, and Virginia.



#BTWD2016



Bike to Work Day is also
funded by D.C., MD, VA
and U.S. Departments
of Transportation.

Register free at BIKETOWORKMETRODC.ORG or call 800.745.7433